

# Archdiocese of Baltimore

## *Creating and Effectively Using a Teaching Webpage Using Web 2.0*

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### **Directions for the pre-class assignments.**

Please read this entire document before you jump in.

To prepare for our first class session, I would like you to watch some short videos about Web 2.0, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learners, digital ethnography, and information literacy. *You will post a brief reaction on your blog (more on that later) which others can view and comment on.*

There are also a few websites I want you to visit for Bloom's taxonomy and how some folks have restructured it to apply to collaborative and student-centered learning using Web 2.0 tools. We will discuss these ideas during the first class. You do not need to post any thoughts online, but I encourage you to reflect and share during class.

You will need to set up three online accounts before class begins.

Bring to the first class a USB thumb drive and an image of yourself if you have one. You should also bring some files you've used in the past: a Word document, PowerPoint presentation, or even a video or an mp3. Don't worry about the latter two if you don't have those file types available.

### **Accounts**

Please visit the following websites and set up accounts. I realize some people get overloaded with usernames and passwords, so please write them down and bring them to class each week.

- gMail: [www.gmail.com](http://www.gmail.com)

Though we won't use gmail for email, setting up an account prepares you for any other service you use with Google, e.g., blogger, shared docs, RSS reader, and picasa. If you already have an account, you need not create a new one.

- Ning: [www.ning.com](http://www.ning.com)

Ning is a service that will allow us to use a Private Social Network, or in our case, a PLN: Private Learning Network. Think of it as our own Facebook system, separate and secure from the rest of the world and used for professional and collaborative discussion and sharing of ideas.

After setting up your account, do not create your own Ning, just make the account. *You will use it to create your first blog post for the class (see Blog Post and Comments below).* We will explore Ning in depth during the first class. Sometimes Ning makes you sign in a few times to access stuff. It's a little annoying, but don't be startled if it happens to you.

- Diigo: [www.diigo.com](http://www.diigo.com)

Diigo is a social bookmarking service that allows you to not only store your favorite website addresses online (instead of on separate computers), but also allows you to share sites with colleagues, friends, and students. When you make your diigo account, do not create a group nor join any existing groups. We will do that during our first class.

## Videos

You can visit our class wiki to view the videos and access other resources during the course. We will study wikis later, but for now you may visit it and think of it as a regular website. The wiki is separate from our Ning PLN. I use our wiki to share content and our Ning PLN will be used for other purposes. Initially, folks may confuse some of the things we use, but you'll all be squared away by the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Visit: <http://aobweb20.wikispaces.com>

Once on the AOB wiki site, click the link on the left that reads: Web 2.0, and view each of the videos found on the page. There are eight (8) short videos, though the last one is optional.

## Blog Post and Comments– reaction to Web 2.0 videos

For your first blog post I would like you to complete the following by January 28. If you cannot complete these activities in time, do not worry since I am assigning this rather late and close to the due date. I would prefer everyone to do it to get an early start on your studies, but you won't be penalized in any way if you can't get to it.

Visit our class Ning, <http://aobweb20.ning.com> and click the link for Blogs near the top-middle of the page just below the heading. On the Blog page, click on the link to the left for My Blog (which is yours – not mine!). On this page you will see another link under the Blogs tab that has a plus sign, +, and says Add a Blog Post. This is the text entry page where you will share your reactions to the videos. Use only one blog post, do not create three.

For the Post Title, write – My reactions to the videos

Complete questions #1 and 2, and respond to #3.

- 1. Which video made the strongest impression on you and why?**
- 2. What common themes did you notice across some or all of the videos?**
- 3. Share your remarks about one of these two pairs:**
  - a. The Did You Know versions 3.0 and. 4.0**
  - b. The Vision of Students Today K-12 and College videos**

**Consider the common information in each video in your chosen pair and how you may perceive the second video to have evolved from the first one. Do you notice any scaffolding or extension of concept? Are the videos in your selected pair in fact revisions or even a “pair”?**

I would like you to write a few paragraphs, not an essay! You may use bullets or other formatting. If you have a lot to share, go for it. Some folks may have some experience with these ideas and it would be wonderful if you could share what you already know about how to use some of the tools (blog, wiki, podcast, etc.) or other technologies we may (or may not) study.

Finally, read several of your classmates' posts and share a comment on at least two of them. You may use a question or an observation in your comment. To access others' blogs within our ning, find other people through the members link. Obviously the first few people who post won't have many other posts to read, so wait to do this until later in the week when many are available.

## **Articles**

On the class wiki: <http://aobweb20.wikispaces.com>, you will also find a link on the left labeled Bloom's. This page features links to sites that address how the Web-tools we will study can be applied to the six levels of Bloom's Taxonomy. Please visit them and consider what you already know, how you may use Bloom's now, and how it may be applied to modern Web tools.